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# The People.

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## INNER WHEELS

Of Capitalist Politics and Reforms in Pennsylvania.

HOLY JOHN AND REV. SILAS.

State Boss Quay and Allegheny County County Bosses Magee and Flynn—What Gives Power to Each—Their Dimensions—Reform—John Wamamaker's "Reform" Movement—The Rev. Silas C. Swallow's Candidacy—The Corruption and Immorality that Form the Ground Work of all—These Parties of Capital.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., July 26.—Pennsylvania has some very envious politics and politicians within her borders. At this end of the State, the Republican party is divided into two factions: Quay, as State Boss, against Magee and Flynn who are little journeymen bosses. Quay never bothers much about Magee so long as Magee confines his operations to Allegheny County. But so soon as Magee tries to "operate" outside of the county, then Quay proceeds to tie the big knots in Magee's ear so that he cannot get through Quay's fences. Magee used to be a pupil of Quay, and Quay taught him all that he knows. But Quay did not teach Magee all that he knows Himself; hence this henceness. But that both are as unprincipled rascals as ever went unburning is a notorious fact.

The peculiar political methods of both are utterly subversive of popular government and directly intended to nullify the ballot, they are more menacing to the genius of democracy than would be the approach of all the armies of Europe.

Quay is said to be the legislative agent of five trusts, and this goes a great way to explain his inconsistent attitude upon the Dingley Tariff and other bills. Quay looks out exclusively for Quay, his political friends are stepping stones to him, and utterly ungrateful withal. He will let any man drop into a hole without any hesitation in order to get over it himself.

For a year or two Quay has posed as a reformer (God save the mark!) and wonderful things were to be done in the last legislature; but when it came to the critical moment, it all fell through,—just so much political buncombe; only that and nothing more.

Magee and Flynn are faction leaders against Quay at this end of the State, in conjunction with Dave Martin and others of the same kidney at the other end of the State. Magee is a traction magnate, after the style of the Widener-Elkins-Yerkes school of ex-convicts and franchise thieves. Magee is the local political boss and the city councils are his private property. There are not ten members in the whole outfit that do not carry the Magee nose ring, and when Mr. Magee chooses to take snuff, it is the councilmen's duty to sneeze; consequently Magee has gotten from this city franchises worth millions for nothing, and will get more at the same price.

Flinn is an ignorant Irish blackguard, a typical heeler and labor sweeper, a street contractor brought up in a cobbler shop on a plain but nutritious diet of some water and fried cabbage. Flinn's front name is Patrick, but for some mysterious reason of his own he calls himself William. He is simply a useful tool of Magee, and that is all he amounts to or ever will.

It is to this latter herd that Wamamaker belongs. Holy John, the "Reformer," was their candidate for Senator against Penrose, and lately their candidate for Governor against Stone. John and his fictitious "Republican State League of Business Men" has been getting licked with the beautiful precision of clockwork, and they blame all this on Quay. Hence it is that Angel John is a trifle sore under the saddle; his pin feathers worn off some, as it were.

And now—in these the long sultry days of the dog—comes the Reverend Silas C., whose last name is Swallow; and on the principle that "misery loves company," proposes to double up with pious Johnny. In the poetic language of the Artful Dodger "here's a go." What a blessing it is that "one swallow don't make a summer."

In order that the working people of Pennsylvania may properly understand the peculiarities of this little political side show, I append the following parallel columns taken from the New York "World," date of July 27, 1895, and after the working people have read and digested it, then they will be able to understand just about how much value

this combination is worth, of course—bearing in mind that Swallow is the Prohibition candidate for Governor:

Philadelphia, July 27, 1895.—The trouble among the employees of ex-Postmaster General Wamamaker, over the low wages and petty tyranny of the floor boss is serious. Since the publication of the employees' grievances and their steps to organize for self-preservation, detectives have been employed in Wamamaker's store to find out the employees who have joined the union. The new Labor League, which numbers over 1,000, threatens to go out in a body, if any of their number is discharged. The League, which is known as "The Retail Employees' Protective Association," is a mutual protection society. The employees are paid but \$4.00 per week and are subjected to petty and unnecessary fines for trivial faults. The delegates from the different lodges have formed a mutual protection agreement with the K. of L., and at a meeting of District Union No. 129, K. of L., a resolution was passed pledging moral and financial support to the employees in their efforts to obtain more liberal wages and conditions of labor. It is common knowledge in Philadelphia that the Wamamaker employees below a certain grade have fewer privileges and have to bear greater exactions than employees of any other dry goods firm.

This reads like the brutish drunken orgies of some Ashantee nigger king, or the senseless stuffing of the Apache after a successful buffalo hunt. Evidently this ignorant young slob must think that the Pimped Pimps of Paris are all belly. But all this indicates the moral and intellectual grade of these labor sweaters with whom the Rev. Dr. Swallow desires to form a political partnership, and will have the supreme gall to ask decent people to vote for them.

In every department store in the land, are scores of unfortunate women, the miserable victims of this thoroughly vicious system of wage slavery, who have absolutely no power whatever to wring from the Wamamakers anything more than just what they choose to give them; victims—helpless, weak, defenceless—who MUST have SOME sort of a shelter, MUST have SOME food, and MUST dress themselves decently or lose their jobs. IT CANNOT BE DONE ON SUCH WAGES; consequently these women must make up the shortage in some way, and many of them have no other resource but prostitution.

John Wamamaker knows this; the Prohibitionist and Reformer Rev. Silas C. Swallow knows this; it is an open secret in business circles that prostitution of female employees has become a matter of course, a component part of "business" and a factor in "business" calculations. All this applies to John Wamamaker's "business" as well as others, and St. John, of the department store, teaches the largest Bible Class in the country on Sundays and knows, while he is doing it, that his very existence is a curse to hundreds of his fellows.

And these two pious, oily, unctious, hypocritical old scoundrels are going to get together in politics;—a mighty dirty combination of dirty politics and dirty dollars; a combination that fills decent people with disgust and contempt too deep for utterance! And such is "Reform" politics in Pennsylvania.

How can workingmen fail to vote the S. L. P. ticket?

It certainly cannot be creditable to the workers of our land to see the poor estimation in which McKinley holds one of their conquerors.

Since the war broke out, the redoubtable Gen. Miles has been kicked about like a football. A junior officer was placed in command of the forces operating in Santiago and allowed to carry off the first land laurels. And only now, when almost defenceless little Porto Rico is to be captured, is Miles finally put in command.

What does all this mean, when we recall how this Miles was promenade from one end of the country to the other, and feasted as a hero for the "masterly way in which he nipped rebellion in the bud" at Chicago? Is it easier to conquer the workers of America than to overcome the nation whom they, and they alone, are conquering. The Spaniard is being beaten by the working class; can it be that the class that beats the Spaniard is more easy to get away with than the Spaniard whom it beats? That surely is absurd. And yet that is what means the treatment which the workingmen-conqueror Miles is receiving at the hands of McKinley.

Let the workers take notice of this fact, and of all that it means.

A second edition of the "History of the Commune of 1871" by Lissagaray, and translated from the French by Eleanor Marx Aveling has been put on the market by the International Publishing Co. It is 600 pages, green cloth, \$1. A large discount is allowed on large purchases. Apply Labor News Co., 64 East Fourth street.

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

## NOW AND THEN.

The Philippines as they Are and as Capitalism Will Make them.

At Present the "Uncivilized" Philippine Islanders Enjoy Life—American Capitalism is to "Civilize" them—Once "Civilized" they will no longer Indulge in the "Barbarism" of the Enjoyment of Life, they will Sweat and Maul, like true Civilized, for the Benefit of the American Capitalist Who lives in Idleness.

The Philippine Islands are, the way things look, to become our property. What that means to the natives may escape many people. It is well, therefore, now and betimes, to record the condition of the people, so that, if we do keep the islands, we may be able to compare the condition we shall soon thrust them in with the condition we drove them out of when we brought our civilization to them.

From the most reliable authority it is learned that, besides the one year out of seven that all foreign employees of the great mercantile houses represented in Manila have given to them as "home leave," there is a month's vacation each year, a regular holiday each month, and all the saints' days, and Spanish, French, English, German, and American holidays. Not to observe a saint's day in Manila is sinful, and every one holds such sinfulness in especial detestation. Figuring in all the saints' days, Sundays, and general holidays, there are 129 days in each year when these people do not work.

Clerks earn from \$2,500 to \$5,000 a year, besides having lodgings found, a mess allowance, medical attendance, and traveling expenses. They work from daylight to noon, rest for two or three hours, and then work till 5 o'clock, but they have much freedom in choosing their hours and are hurried only on mail days.

There are many excellent bands in Manila, and open-air concerts are given every evening in fair weather. Theatrical companies, both native and foreign, play through the season. The Mestiza chorus girl is alluring. In the cathedral and the churches the music is always good, though it is startling to the newcomer to hear, as he will in some services, a Gloria from "Trovatore," the Credo with music from "Barbiere," and the Elevation from "Traviata."

All of which goes to show that theory upon which people live there is that life is to be enjoyed. Now, just wait till our New England and other factories have set up their establishments there, and till plantations in the Philippines begin to be run on the bonanza farm style of capitalism. Then another theory of life will be set up, and enforced with club and bayonet: the theory that only the idle capitalist's life is there for enjoyment, that all other peoples' lives are there for "diligence and toil"; then the numerous holidays will be abolished, salaries curtailed, and concerts and promenades reserved for the "elite" only; then there will be seen the beauties of capitalism flourishing in full bloom—destitution of the many beset by toil, enjoyment of the few.

And yet it may never come so far. Long before that the working class of America may have got tired of carrying on its back the idle class of exploiters, of wetting with its sweat the perverse system of capitalism, and of tolerating on its flanks the gnats of the labor fakir; it may have decided to shake off the whole pack, throw down the existing system of rapine, and trumpet to the world the rise of the Socialist Republic.

In these hot days, the professional philanthropists blossom forth like mosquitoes; they inoculate the air with their wisdom. A philanthropic wisecrack comes out with the information that "fully seven-tenths of the illness among babies are due to the ignorance of the mothers of the poorer class, who do not understand modern sanitary methods."

What opportunity is there for the mothers of the working class to apply "modern sanitation" in their cramped, ill-ventilated, stuffy quarters? What chance is there for cleanliness when families of five are obliged to crowd into two or three rooms, and one of these a kitchen? Not the ignorance of the mothers of the poor, but the criminality of the mothers, and the fathers to boot, of the rich, in short, of the capitalist class, is responsible for the illness and the wholesale mortality of the children of the poor. A social system and its upholders that tears up the family, throws out of work the bread winner, drags into the factory and the shop the mother, pauperizes both, and thrusts them into dog kennels to live in—such a social system and its upholders are worse than cholera microbes, and deserve to be treated as such.

"As a matter of economy," the management of the Vincennes, Ind., Street Railway Company are about to employ women instead of men as conductors. More than fifty women answered the company's advertisement; they are forthwith to be installed, and men are to be displaced;—indeed a thrilling illustration of the way the family is promoted and protected by the capitalist system.

## A COMING STORM.

Impending Shut-Down in New England Mills.

The Cotton-Mill Owners, Unable to Bid Themselves in the Market of the Surplus, are Arranging a Shut-Down—Machinery, Held by Private Hands, Will Operate only for Profit, i. e., for Increased Plunder—The Social Revolution Only Adequate to End the Evil.

FALL RIVER, Mass., July 27.—If the workmen of New England scan the horizon, they will perceive the signs of an approaching storm; and if they watch the storm closely, they will learn not a little from it.

About thirty cotton mills of this city have agreed to close down for four weeks in the near future; the movement will affect about half the total of 25,000 factory employees of Fall River.

But that's not all. The movement is not merely a local one; like the movements of capitalists recently, it is a combined and general one; it is to include the cotton manufacturers generally throughout New England. The plan is to obtain the consensus of sufficient manufacturers to cover 4,000,000 spindles. When this is obtained the shut-down will be ordered.

And why all this? More important, in a way, than the misery itself that is impending over the operatives, is the answer to this question. The answer lays bare the blight upon civilization that is implied in the private ownership of the modern tool of production, to wit, CAPITAL.

The cotton factories of New England are among the most improved means of production extant. Their productive capacity is enormous, greatly in excess of any amount of wealth that they have yet turned out. And the people who work them? They are in poverty; they produce cloth, and have not enough to wear; and their fellow laborers, whose co-operation in all the other branches of industry enables the textile workers to produce as abundantly, all sharp one another's poverty. With nakedness and lack of the necessities of life, accordingly, with a strong actual demand for wealth to consume, and with millions upon millions of spindles, arranged in the most improved manner, ready to turn out an avalanche of cloth, in other words, with want on the one side, and, on the other, the ample means to satisfy it, what happens? Are these tools of production set in motion to the end that the people may enjoy the comforts with which the cotton mills are big? No! The motion that these tools are now in is to be curtailed, even stopped! Why?

The mills to-day have two features: one feature is the potentiality of unlimited production; the other feature is private ownership. The second feature smites the first with palsy.

Being owned by private concerns, in a word, being capital, the mills are not to be operated except in so far as they can yield profit to the private holders. The result of this is disastrous to the nation. The mills, being private property, have been all along operated for profit only. That is to say for every hundred dollars' worth of goods that the workers have produced, they got in wages only a twenty-five dollars' equivalent. With that \$25 they could not purchase back the other seventy-five dollars' worth. The capitalist class, that robbed them of their seventy-five dollars' worth, calling that profit, cannot itself consume the whole of its plunder. Say that it consume forty dollars' worth thereof, there remain thirty-five dollars' worth unconsumed, neither can the capitalist class squander it,—it is satiated;—nor can the working-class, needy though it is, reach that surplus—it has received too small wages for that. That thirty-five dollars' worth of surplus accumulates. The capitalist tries to unload it on foreign markets; but there it comes across a working class population that has been plucked just the same as its own domestic working class. The surplus can't be got rid of there. New markets must then be opened; wars are ordered, etc.; but yet the surplus can't be got rid of, seeing that all the other capitalists of all the other countries turn up there, driven by the same law. After a while that surplus has grown unmanageable. To continue operating the mills, etc., is only to increase the surplus on hand; production would leave no profit, and thus,—with want, on all sides, and with the ample capacity to satisfy it, on the other—production is stopped, a shut down is ordered,—and want is increased proportionally.

This is the quarter from which the present storm, that threatens the New England textile operatives, is to break loose from. It is the quarter of CAPITAL, the quarter of the private ownership of the tools of production.

How is this storm to be guarded against? Only in one way: it must be PREVENTED. There is no such thing as "providing against" it; there is no such thing as "fortifying oneself so as to meet it"; such tactics are all well enough against the visitations of nature; but even there the intelligent man seeks to prevent the evil wherever he can, and does not throw himself upon the cure: cholera, yellow-jack, etc., etc., all are prevented, as far as one can; we do not wait until they come, and then look for means against them. The visitations of the storm or blight of Capitalism cannot be "guarded against"

—they must and can be prevented. And the way to do that is to destroy the hotbed of evil. At Siboney, the village was burnt up as a breeding place of yellow fever; in civilized society Capitalism must be burnt up as the breeding cause of an infinitely more dreadful plague—wage slavery and popular poverty. The tool of production, now held as private property by, and operated for the private profit of, a class that stole it from the race, must be restored to the race, to be operated for the race's use.

It is not surprising that just now Mr. Whitehead, the local labor fakir, who has a capitalist political job, should be in hot water with the Socialists. Screech owls are heralds of the approaching storm; and Whitehead is screeching to make one deaf. He knows the troubles that are approaching when the shut-down is ordered; he knows, too, that Socialist Labor party education has been tonicking the workers' mind; he knows also that an uprising of class-conscious Labor will follow the storm close upon its heels,—and then, woe to the Labor Fakir, his master the Capitalist Class, and the Dungeon-keeper of both—the Capitalist System.

A recent decision by the Cigarmakers' International Union against one of its members forcibly recalls the justice of an article in these columns a little over a year ago entitled "Lapses," in which it was proven that the Labor Fakirs, who run the Cigarmakers' Union, had begun to tremble for their fat salaries in view of the Union's financial decline, and were resorting to the tricks of Insurance Companies: rake in premiums, and then avoid obligations.

One John Kneek, cigarmaker, member of Union 132, Brooklyn, N. Y., fell out of work. One of the lures that the Union holds out to gather new members (read to collect their dues), is that, if they are out of work, they get "out-of-work benefits." Poor Kneek bit at the bait, and was landed into the Union, i. e., paid his dues, imagining all along that "in the struggle of capital against capital," which the Union preaches, he should be wounded, i. e., get out of work, his dues would then drop back over him, like a sweet manna. He did get out of work, and, like the innocent he must be, he expected his "out-of-work" benefit, and applied for it. Forthwith, the Union's mask was dropped, and its fake Insurance Company features protruded into Kneek's face.

Kneek has a wife; to help him out and make it possible to get along with his wages, which, despite the Union's lying promises to protect him in, were steadily going down, she set up a little fancy store. This fancy store was seized upon by the Executive Board of the Union as a pretext to defraud Kneek of his allowance. They decided that the store was a means of support, and that the out-of-work benefit is only for those members who have no other means of support;—just the way a fake Insurance Company seizes upon any pretext to escape paying out any insurance.

The ill-starred Kneek may now be a wiser man; and he surely is asking himself whether his present means of support could not be a better one if he had kept his dues, and not supported the fakir officers of the Union.

It is not our New York State volunteers alone who are "making experiences" in the "camps" in which they are being speculated on by the Democratic and Republican politicians. The Ohio workingmen volunteers are also learning.

At Camp Norman M. Smith, located near Alliance, O., some of the members of Company F are cursing the army contractors for the poor quality of goods in their uniforms. The shoes that were given them about a month ago are already wearing out, and are not worth half the price that they are charged for them.

Privates in the service are allotted \$48.36 the first six months for their equipment, and out of this the Government furnishes them with clothing and all wearing apparel at the following average prices: Shoes, \$1.80; blouses, \$3.50; trousers, \$2.35; shirts, \$1.80; campaign hats, 90 cents; suspenders, 21 cents; socks, 6 cents per pair; underwear, etc. They are expected to keep two uniforms upon this.

Old Pullman, of Pullman Palace Car and Pullman strike reputation, surely neither lived nor died in vain.

Alive, he exemplified during the great strike, that his class did the ruling. He was begged to submit to the farce of arbitration; he insisted, correctly enough, that there was nothing to arbitrate; demanded protection, and Gen. Miles, otherwise, as is now evident, good for nothing, conquered Chicago in short order and kept Pullman on top.

Dead, he is now proving that the accumulations of the capitalist accumulate regardless of the capitalist himself, and exclusively through the working class; in the nine months that have elapsed since his death the value of the stock he left has risen from 160 to 210, or from \$6,400,000 to \$8,400,000!

## GAUNTLET THROWN

By Section Revere, Mass., at the Local Police.

WE HOLD OUR GROUND.

An Other Attempt by the Representatives of the "Pillars of Society" to Abridge Free Speech—The Attempt Fails Through the Plucky Stand of the Socialist Speaker and Organization—An Interesting Dialogue Between a Representative Socialist and a Representative Barbarian, the Former Winning a Decided Victory.

REVERE, Mass., July 24.—Three thousand persons witnessed this afternoon a very interesting dialogue on Crescent Beach between the following personages:

Revere Policeman (Pushing the crowd aside and roughly grasping the Socialist speaker by the arm)—"Show me your permit!"

Martha Moore Avery—"I have none."

R. P. (gruffly)—"Then you have no business to speak here."

M. M. Avery—"Where is your authority, sir?"

R. P.—"That's all right; you can't speak here; you have no right."

M. M. Avery—"But you are mistaken, sir; I have; and I WILL speak here. Is not this public property?"

R. P.—"Yes, it is; but you are causing an obstruction."

M. M. Avery (Aside to the audience)—"Ladies and gentlemen, I ask you to bear witness whether or no we are causing an obstruction. Behold, on the left of us are the carriages passing and re-passing, while on our right is the sidewalk, which gives free passage to all, and if any obstruction is caused it is their duty (pointing to policeman) to clear for us the way. Then I ask you ALL, are we obstructing?"

(Shouts from a thousand voices)—"No, no, no!"

M. M. Avery (Turning to Revere Policeman)—"You see, sir, that you are mistaken."

R. P. (feeling uneasy)—"You will have to step down and move on or I will arrest you."

M. M. Avery (smiling)—"Well, you may suit yourself about that."

So the Revere Policeman departed, rattling his bunch of keys to ring up, and has not been seen since, while Comrade Avery kept on speaking for fully two hours after. Along the beach we could have secured many private lots, but realizing that Socialists must form the fighting battalions of the working class, we were desirous of making a test on our own lot (the public highway), which resulted in the above victory for young Section Revere.

BYRON EFFORD.

It is quite evident that the blowing in which our capitalist press is indulging on the subject of our victories in Cuba has an ulterior purpose; its purpose is to intimidate the working class; its purpose is to make out the Army to be such a powerful affair that workingmen will stand overawed by it, and never dare to strike. But our capitalist journalists little know what they are doing. They will, eventually, if not sooner, find out that their praises effect just the reverse of what they purport. It is coming out, not fast, but by degrees, and quite fast for all practical purposes, that the redoubtable heroes were the rank and file, i. e., the workingmen soldiers—the very element in the army that the capitalist class has to fear; while the politicians and the incompetents were the higher officers—the very element in the army that capitalists will have to rely on. Take for instance the dazzling achievement on the heights of St. Juan.

It now turns out that the feat was accomplished by the soldiers, left in the lurch by the officers. With Mauser bullets whizzing mysteriously through the air and peppering them; unwilling to retreat; unguided by officers; the soldiers rushed forward, animated by a spontaneous sense of exhilarating daring, if not desperation; they rushed up through a hailstorm of shot; and conquered. Theirs and theirs alone was the glory, the bravery, and the determination.

As in the battle-fields of production, so on those of war it is the rank and file of the proletariat that accomplishes great achievements; the capitalist class or its representatives are, on the one field as on the other, the shirkers.

Can a class of shirkers maintain itself by force through shirkers?

It certainly must be heralded as a good sign of the times that the call for additional volunteers does not meet with any alarming response.

Twenty-five out of the thirty-three States, called on to furnish fresh food for cannon, have failed to recruit the required number. Evidently our working people are sobering up. Well for them. If our capitalists want to acquire mines and plantations abroad, let them go and fight for it.



## THE PEOPLE.

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## SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888 (Presidential).....2,068  
In 1890.....15,551  
In 1892 (Presidential).....21,157  
In 1894.....25,185  
In 1896 (Presidential).....26,664  
In 1897.....55,673

Labor and Peace are reciprocal terms; they supplement each other; they are integral. Capitalism and militarism are the two great scourges of modern nations.

Magalhães Lima.

## JUDGE GUMMERE'S DECISION.

It is a fundamental principle in the science of sociology, and, therefore, of Socialism, that material interests are the ground work of all superstructure of morality, ethics, etc. This principle is violently denied by the upholders of the present, or capitalist, social system. Yielding either to the vulgarity of their intellect, which habitually gets things upside down, or to the weakness of their character, which seeks to deck out Wrong in the garb of Right, they place morality first and make it out the head-fountain of all else. The recent decision of Judge Gummere in New Jersey furnishes an eminent illustration of the correctness of the Socialist and the falsity of the capitalist theory.

A boy, Melville Graham, was killed two years ago by the Consolidated Traction Company of New Jersey; his father brought suit for damages; and the Judge ruled no damages could be claimed on the ground that "children are rather burdens than sources of profit to their parents." What is the source of the morality that underlies this view?

New Jersey, if such a thing is possible, is the most railroad-ridden State in the Union. Everywhere the Government is more or less dominated by the railroads; in New Jersey this is eminently so. Governors, Legislatures, Judges are the clerks of railroad interests pre-eminently. The material interests of gentlemen are rooted in the interests of the railroads; hence, what is to the detriment of these is Wrong, and what is to their interest is Right. The moral sense of Judge Gummere is an exhalation of his pocket, and that draws its supplies from the railroads.

The power of material interests to shape moral views is, however, in this instance exemplified with exceptional force. Where no express statute provides otherwise, New Jersey is ruled by the Common Law. At Common Law, parents are entitled to the "services" of their children, and these "services" are a basis for a suit in damages when injury accrues to a child. No express or other New Jersey law has repealed the Common Law principle. It stands to-day, and, among the laws that Judge Gummere swore to uphold when he took office was that. Yet he overthrew and lightly vaults over it; and he sets up a new principle—obedient to the material interests of his class.

Why, then? Judge Gummere's decision is legitimate; as legitimate as the crab apple is the fruit of the crab apple tree. With the capitalist system of production in force, with capitalist office clerks in office, the government can be nothing else than the reflex of such material interests, and the morality of such government can not choose but partake of that of the cannibal.

Material interests are the root of social, moral and other conceptions. If these interests are low and barbarous, the result must be a low and barbarous conception. Only the high and civilized material interests that underlie Socialism and the class that upholds it can bear civilized fruit.

## POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC.

A new weekly has appeared in Nebraska City, Neb. It is edited by J. Sterling Morton, ex-Secretary of Agriculture under Cleveland's last regime. The name of the new weekly is "The Conservative." Its programme merits attention:

"The main object of 'The Conservative' is the conservation of all that is deemed desirable in the social, industrial and political life of the United States."

Having thus precluded its general outlines, "The Conservative" is kind enough to proceed to specifications. Among the things which it enumerates as being worthy of being "conserved" are:

1.—"The civil service merit system," which is merely a scheme to provide public office for the children of capitalists, or, rather, to debar the working class from the civil service. The "merit system," so-called, provides for

elaborate examinations, not on the subjects that concern the office to be examined for, but on all kinds of general information, obtainable only by people who have had a chance to go to school at least up to their 21st year. The working people have no such chance; before they have fairly got through the primaries they must go to work; the opportunity for an education, needed to stand the examination of the "merit system," is thus taken away from the working people by the very class in whose interest the system is worthy of "conservation" which provides for the idle brats of the idle capitalist class.

2.—"No distinction between classes who labor with their hands and those who labor with their brains";—altogether a very easy thing, seeing there is actually no difference between the inventor wage slave, who is robbed of his brain-product, and the manual wage slave who is robbed of his hand-product; the two belonging to one and the same class—the wage slave class—the class that can not earn a living without it sells itself into wage slavery to the idle holder of capital, and is thus robbed by him. But what "The Conservative" really means, and that, surely, is no easy task and will become daily a harder one, is something else. It means that it will endeavor to "conserve" the dust that now conceals the fact that the capitalist class is a wholly idle, superfluous and parasitic class, and that imputes to this parasitic, superfluous, idle class the attributes of production. It means to "conserve" the nursery tale about the capitalists' right to his share of wealth, which is reducible to the absurd proposition that "idleness is the source of all wealth."

3.—"Equality of the rights of individuals and the rights of corporations,"—which is equivalent to upholding the rights of inferiorly built and equipped Spanish cruisers and the rights of superiorly built and equipped American battle ships—a decidedly difficult task; as it means to hoodwink the awakening proletariat on the fact that the individual has no show against combined capital.

These three planks no doubt make a first-class platform. After their enunciation it was wholly superfluous for "The Conservative" to declare that it will neither tolerate nor indulge in "demagogism": it is committed body and soul to plutogism.

Not an abortion, as this "Conservative," but the timely birth of a useful member in the fraternity of journalism, is "The Tocsin," a Socialist Labor party paper that will appear in Minneapolis on the 4th of next month. The attitude of clean cut and aggressive policy of the Minnesota comrades, to say nothing of the ability and rectitude of the comrade chosen to be the responsible Editor—Algernon Lee—are both in earnest that the tocsin, that will be rung by our new collaborator, will not be the brainless clatter of the calamity howler, but the well tuned alarm note that teaches while it stirs, and organizes while it gathers.

Starvation wages are now being introduced among the spies of capitalism. As much is to be inferred from the following news item in the Detroit, Mich., "Motorman and Conductor":

"An exchange informs us that lady conductors are now employed on the street cars in Chillicothe, O., and that they are receiving about one-half the wages paid the men who were discharged from these positions."

On the 19th of last month an article appeared in these columns giving facts and figures, taken from the "Cigarmakers' Official Journal," and illustrating the criminal folly of the "pure and simple" idea. With the facts and figures furnished by the "Journal" itself, the article argued and proved that the International Cigar Makers' Union was making a headlong plunge to ruination, and that, unless it bleeds its rank and file even harder than during the last two years, one single year would almost wholly wipe out the reserve fund. To this categorical exposition the "Cigarmakers' Official Journal" makes an "answer" that is a complete admission of guilt—at least to every sensible man. It reports with almost two of its broad columns of nothing but personal abuse, and closes with this "clinch":

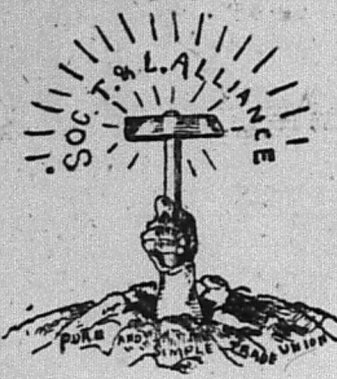
"They (those who write THE PEOPLE) are genuine rascals, lying, insinuating character-assassins and real would-be union wreckers."

Our case is proven all around.

Says the rifle-dig-for-the-working-men and gold-bug-free trader New York "Evening Post":

"When the last soldier shall have left Cuba, the island will be found, for all civil purposes, with regularly organized municipal governments."

Here is an omission; the article should have added among the things that will be found on the island "swarms of northern vultures, with beaks and talons twice as sharp as any that ever descended on the island from Spain, having been sharpened by the capitalist system"; and these vultures illustrate the blessings of freedom, as capitalism understands it, by making free with every thing they can take hold of.



At the International Socialist Labor Congress, held in London in 1896, a resolution was adopted to the effect that "While it is absolutely necessary for the working people to make use of the political power in order to secure and enforce the demands of labor, yet differences of political views, held by members of labor organizations should not be a reason for separate organization in the economic struggle, causing dissensions and disruptions."

This resolution is eminently wise, and was supported by the S. L. P. delegate to the Congress, immediately after the party's emphatic endorsement, in convention, of the S. T. & L. A.

That the Labor Fakirs, whom the S. T. & L. A. is driving from cover, should invoke that resolution against the tactics of the S. T. & L. A. is nothing surprising. We have more than once called attention to the identity of tactics by Capitalists and Labor Fakirs. The capitalists declare that THEY are the Nation, and that the Nation, such as they have molded it, is THE Nation; it follows, logically enough from these premises, that, to hit the capitalist is to hit the Nation, and that, to propose another social system is treason to the Nation. So likewise reason the Labor Fakirs. According to them, THEY are the Union, and the Union, such as they run it, is THE Union, is THE labor organization. Logically enough from their premises, to expose their rascality, ignorance and corruption is a blow at Unionism, and to strive after a genuine trade organization of the working class, an organization that does not leave and lead the proletariat like sheep for the capitalist shambles, is treason to Unionism. That's all plain and natural enough. The capitalist objects to splitting up the united people into "warring classes," why should not the Labor Fakir object to the introduction of "disruptions and dissensions" into his preserves?

The odd thing, that attention may profitably be called to, is the circumstance that the resolution is likewise invoked by a very different set of people from the Labor Fakir, to wit, some, a dozen, or two, or three, of Germans who here set themselves up as a sort of Socialist incantationists, claim to be the fountain head of all Socialist wisdom and interpretation, and set up this claim, not upon any reasoning—they will always be seen to run away from argument—but upon the mere ground of their long number of years in the Socialist Movement; some even trace their Socialism to ancestry. For short, we shall here call them the "Old Socialists." Their attitude deserves close scrutiny. When scrutinized, it will be found that some of them enroll with Tammany; others went over to Populism; many more would have liked to; some got scared for their little bank accounts and supported McKinley; others succumb to the "one thing at a time" theory, and, in one place, become nationalizationists à la Capitalist, and, in yet other places, fly off into all sorts of convenient grooves. The scrutiny reveals the leading feature of the "Old Socialist"—he is on the run. How terrible the panic is that sets him running a closer inquiry into the resolution in question will make clear.

Among the delegations at the London Congress who held up the resolution was the German delegation. They had behind them a longer history than any. Early in their history, a generation ago, they were confronted with the identical problem that the movement is confronted with here: Labor organizations were set up drawing their inspiration from England, i. e., they grounded themselves upon capitalism, and sailed under the flag of Capital. That was the "Hirsch-Dunker" movement. How did the German Socialist movement of then treat these "labor organizations"? Did they say these organizations consisted of wage slaves, and therefore must be treated as such? No! They looked at the principles that animated the thing, saw "capitalism" written all over it, and—they sailed in and smashed them up, in some cases even physically.

And justly so. Had that not been done then, the German movement would not be the inspiring portent it is to-day. The S. L. P., through the S. T. & L. A., is now doing that work for the American movement that our militant German comrades did years ago. The Labor Fakir—controlled "pure and simple" union is in America essentially what the Hirsch-Dunker affair was in Germany. The one and the other ignore the economic basis of the Labor Movement; accordingly, are a denial of the class struggle; and, consequently, can only be a curse to the proletariat. To put an end to this curse the S. T. & L. A. was organized, and is doing its work admirably. It concerns itself no wise with the "political views" of the individuals; it leaves that to the result of sound education on the class struggle; but, due to the ripened roots of "pure and simple" here, the S. T. & L. A. BARS FROM OFFICE any member who takes prominent part in capitalist politics. The resolution of the London Congress quoted above cannot have been, was not, passed against the tactics of the S. T. & L. A., least of all by the German delegations;—just the reverse.

When the Old Socialist now seeks to prevent "dissensions and disruptions" in the American counterparts of Hirsch-Dunkerism, he is on such a run, away from the traditions of his own Germany, that he even throws away, to lighten his run, one of the wisest moves of our comrades in Germany.

The "Old Socialist" does not live in America; he does not even live in Germany; he lives in a Germany that does not and never did exist.

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

## REJECTED

And Thereby Proved to be of Value.

The below letter, written by Comrade Harry Carless, of Newark, N. J., in answer to an article in the "Evening News" of that city, was rejected by the Editor. Here is the Comrade's thorough chastisement of the capitalist Editor for his ignorance and presumption to speak of what he knows nothing about, or for his even worse offence of writing against his better knowledge:

76 Springfield Avenue.

Newark, N. J., July 11, 1898.

Editor of "Evening News":

Dear Sir,—In your editorial of Friday evening, headed "Socialistic Tendencies in France," you effectually prove the fallacy of several arguments advanced as to the cause of the recent growth of Socialism among the French peasantry; but fall into equally as great an error as those you criticize when you say "The real root of the evil is a lack of appreciation of the inevitable results of Socialism. Under our present system a few are rich and the masses relatively poor. Under Socialism every one would be very poor, because there would be very much less wealth produced than there is now."

As a Socialist I would like an opportunity to take exception to that statement, and argue that there would be much more wealth produced under Socialism than under our present system, and that the masses would be infinitely better off than they are now.

Our present method of production is a competitive one, entirely planless, and entails great loss of human energy. Take as an example the advertising necessary in a competitive industry. Reflect upon the enormous expenditures of rival soap manufacturers, of which but little is employed to convey useful information. To conquer new territory, or to hold its own against attacks of rivals, each one of several great companies spends enormous amounts, which can scarcely fail to run up into the hundreds of thousands of dollars. Mr. P. M. Magnusson, a careful student of this question, estimates the expenses of advertising in this country alone at five hundred millions of dollars a year, of which five millions would be ample to convey all the useful information given by this advertising. We have, say in a given industry, one hundred factories, each running three-quarter time. Now, if we had order instead of chaos in production, seventy-five factories could run full time, and an immense saving of labor result.

In the distribution of wealth we have hosts of agents and drummers; we have twenty stores where one would suffice. As an example, take the milk industry. I will quote from a recent article in your own paper relative to the proposed milk trust: "By way of illustration, Mr. Gilmore referred to the city of New York, where about 4,000 retailers are daily engaged supplying milk. Their routes cover a large territory, and as many as twenty dealers have individual customers on one block. The trust proposes to change that system and divide the city into districts, embracing contiguous territory, all to be supplied by one dealer. Under such an arrangement he said 1,000 dealers could do the work now done by 4,000, which would effect a reduction of 300 per cent. in the cost of delivery." Here we see the proposed trust has learned a lesson in economy from our national postal system, where we see all labor utilized to its fullest extent. Under Socialism the nation—the people collectively—would own all the tools of production and distribution. We would not only distribute mail matter, but manufacture and distribute all articles of necessity and comfort that we desire. It would be as unnecessary to have drummers scurrying from one end of these States to the other in search of orders for shoes as it is now to get orders for postage stamps. No more need to advertise linen or silk than there is to advertise money orders now. Still, in spite of all the waste of energy this present system implies, we are able to produce annually over \$1,000 per family. Under Socialism, with order and economy in production, we could easily quadruple that.

To whom would the \$4,000 per family go? To the Duchess of Marlborough, the Countess Castellane, to the idle foreign or native capitalists? No! There would be no capitalists. The nation would own the land and capital, and, as a consequence, the wealth produced would go to those who had helped to produce it.

It is generally conceded even by opponents that under Socialism much more wealth COULD be produced; but, they argue, "when private enterprise gives way to national enterprise, what will be the stimulus to labor? Will not the idle evade their fair share of labor, and live in clover on the industry of their neighbors?"

I will now conclude by quoting from a speech recently delivered in the French Chamber of Deputies by Jules Guesde in answer to this very question:

"Permit me here to answer one of the objections most commonly made to Socialists by persons who do not understand the first elements of Socialism. We are told: 'In the future society any incentive to labor will have disappeared.' To which we reply that this thing that you apprehend in the future is the very thing that exists to-day. Indeed, to-day the workers in the mills, paid by the day, have nothing to incite them to yield a maximum of productivity. Just the reverse; the more they produce, the more enforced idleness they cause. Were they to work twice as hard one day they would simply have thrown away a whole day's wages. It is under the modern social system that there is no incentive to work. This is so obvious a fact that you are constantly increasing the number of spies in your factories. You are well aware that the human machines have so little incentive to work and so much reason to lower their productivity, that, if they were left to themselves, the output would drop to a minimum. This is so true that in England in certain trades unions the workman is enjoined not to perform too much work, for a workman doing too much not only robs himself of future work and wages, but steals work from comrades whom his activity consigns to enforced idleness. That is why, in the cause of solidarity, and in the interest of all, the English trades unions take measures to hinder over-production by

any of their members. The worker has now no direct and personal interest in producing his uttermost; under Socialism, on the contrary, this individual stimulus will be carried to its maximum; because if, under existing conditions, all available members of the community need to work seven or eight hours a day, under Socialism, if the productivity of labor has increased, five hours and a half or less will suffice to accomplish the same results else the consumption must be increased. In a nation which is the mistress of her production, there will be in all branches of human activity, in all the shops and factories, a natural tendency to produce as much as possible in the least possible time, because such an effort would result in an increase of repose and of enjoyment to the workers themselves. And these men, intellectually and muscledly developed, and well versed in science, as they will be, will evermore strain their minds to perfect, simplify, automatise the productive machinery, because the more the machine can do, the less will remain to be done by the man, and every mechanical improvement will therefore mean fresh leisure for art and science, and the assurance of fresh enjoyments of life to all. The social system we aim at will not be one of barbarism. It will be the only really humane system the world has ever seen—unless you take from history's great desert the solitary little oasis of Greece, where a few men lived like gods. But to the end that the minority should reach this degree of culture and enjoyment, a majority of slaves, treated like beasts of burden, had to die under their fardels. The ransom of Greek liberty, Greek philosophy, Greek art and Greek science was slavery. Aristotle was right when he declared that slavery would only disappear when machines could do the work. Well, that moment has arrived. We have them, our slaves of iron and steel; they are our steam-horses and mechanism. And it is because man's genius has torn her productive forces from nature, conquered them, reduced them to slavery, and made them work and produce for him, that we say the hour of man's liberation has struck."

Yours respectfully,

HENRY CARLESS.

## THE SERVING BROTHER.

(Adapted from the Swedish for THE PEOPLE by ANNA C. WALLBERG, Worcester, Mass.)

I.

In traveling on life's long journey  
You feel so safe and content—  
Of course you never go hungry—  
A table is spread in your tent.  
You pass through beautiful places;  
And on soft cushions you rest.  
Sleep sweetly—the Serving Brother,  
He watches over your nest.

II.

Who is he? Hardly his features  
Have made the faintest impress;  
The big coarse hand that he reaches  
You never even would press.  
Like the Spirit of Light, mutely,  
Imperceptibly, obeys he  
Your order without demur;  
A manifold mystical being—  
A throng round your carriage-door.

III.

Your house, a beautiful home-den,  
Well furnished, cosy and warm.  
Your coat and unblemished linen,  
That gives to your person a charm;  
A street, well watered and dusted,  
A walk for your foot adjusted,  
The fresh breakfast roll you cut—  
All this—the Serving Brother,  
Who serves you in every spot.

IV.

He holds the reins of the steam-horse,  
He is black with the engine's soot.  
While transported in smiling dream—  
course  
You go on the smooth even road.  
When in enchantment you're dwelling,  
And 'mong poets your hours dispelling,  
'Mong harmonies, that ne'er die,  
The Serving Brother, the black one,  
On snow-white page did them ply.

V.

Thus quietly walks he the pathway,  
That fate, not himself, did choose;  
It goes as of old, "Well, I pay,"  
You say, and on that repose.  
You think that is all that is needed;  
But suppose that the spirit heeded  
No more your command or word,  
But a sea of heads in uproar  
Gave a wild enraged discord.

VI.

Learn to see in the Serving Spirit  
A comrade, an equal, a friend;  
The callous hand press, and not in it  
Only a coin to expend.  
Elevate, help him, befriend him;  
A greeting gladly extend him,  
As brother glad hand, and him own,  
Learn to know the Serving Brother,  
But mind, what you do, do it soon.

As we go to press, welcome tidings arrive from Lynn, Mass. The Lesters' Union of that city, Union 32, the strongest in every sense, of all the shoemakers organizations attached to Messrs. Tobin, Sieverman and Eaton's A. F. of L. Boot & Shoeworkers' Union, withdrew from that pure and simple concern. On the 26th instant it took a vote and surrendered its charter.

This is the outcome of Alliance education that has for some time been going on in the Union. Well done latters; contact with the Dan Harrises and Sam Gompers can bring on only leprous contamination.

The English translation of Karl Marx's "Eighteenth Brumaire," that recently ran through THE PEOPLE, is now to be had bound in an elegant volume of 78 pages, with Marx' picture as frontispiece. This work is of great value. No Socialist, even though he be no student, and no student even though he be no Socialist, can afford to be without it. Apply Labor News Co., 64 E. 4th street, N. Y. City. Price, 25 cents

Boston, Mass.

THE PEOPLE and Socialist literature can always be had at Comrade C. O. Bruckner's store, 84 West Canton street.



## UNCLE SAM &amp; BROTHER JONATHAN.

Brother Jonathan—I had an idea that the free traders and tariff reformers generally claimed for their plan that it would smash all trusts.

Uncle Sam—Oh, yes; they have claimed that, and I should not wonder if some of them even claimed that free trade would abolish the whooping cough.

B. J.—But already they seem to have forgotten all about that.

U. S.—Have they?  
B. J.—Yes, here is one of them who says that "The Pottery Trust will doubtless lower the wages of its employees so as to down a competing concern, and doubtless when the Trust has ruined its insubordinate rival and put up prices again, the 'deadly' Wilson bill will prevent wages from going up, too." I call this the biggest piece of shamelessness yet out.

U. S.—But why?  
B. J.—Don't you see he admits that the Pottery Trust will live on unsmashed after the Wilson bill has been enacted into law.

U. S.—I do.  
B. J.—And don't you see that this is in contradiction with their promise to smash the Trust through tariff reform?

U. S.—I do.  
B. J.—And don't you call that shamelessness?

U. S.—What? Their saying that the Trust will live on unsmashed, or their not saying still that they are going to smash it?

B. J.—Either or both; I don't care which.

U. S.—No, I can't agree with you.

B. J.—Well, that takes the cake!

U. S.—The Trust, good boy, and you might as well keep cool about it and know the fact, can not be smashed. In its early stages it melts away and reforms, always growing stronger until it has reached the point when it breaks down no more. A good many, if not most of our Trusts, have reached that point to-day.

B. J.—Why, that is incredible!

U. S.—And yet 'tis true; and 'tis natural it should be so. The small capital a man could start a factory with 30 years ago would not begin to do the job now. The Trust is concentrated capital that has risen on the ruins of a whole lot of smaller concerns. What is there to smash it?

B. J.—Free trade, I thought.

U. S.—Let us see. What business drives another concern out of the market?

B. J.—A competitor who can offer the public greater advantages.

U. S.—One who sells cheaper?

B. J.—Well, yes!

U. S.—If a concern can not afford to sell as cheap as another, which of the two would go down?

B. J.—The one that can't sell as cheap.

U. S.—Stick a pin there. Now, another question: Which of two concerns can sell cheaper, one with large or one with small capital?

B. J.—Of course the one with large capital.

U. S.—Now we are ready to return to the main question. To smash a concern, Trust or otherwise, do you need some other concern to sell cheaper?

B. J.—Of course.

U. S.—In other words, you would need a concern with larger capital than the one to be smashed.

B. J.—Exactly.

U. S.—If, then, one Trust is to be smashed, it must be done by another Trust, only a bigger one.

B. J.—Why, that's so!

U. S.—All "Trust Smashing" then amounts to this: The smashing of a smaller by a bigger Trust—i. e., the solidifying of the Trust. Can you escape this reasoning?

B. J.—No, I don't see how.

U. S.—Wherein then lies the shamelessness of the free traders in admitting that the Trust is bound to flourish unsmashed?

B. J.—I see your point; but I now amend my charge. It is not shameless to admit such a fact; but is it not shameless to have deceived us with the false hope that they would knock all Trusts into a cocked hat?

U. S.—I shall not deny the soundness of that charge, but you place yourself in a bad light when you admit he cheated you. Who but boobies are taken in by what any capitalist party promises?

B. J.—I was a boobey. An open confession is good for the soul.

The numerous calls that have come in for the New Bedford speech "What Means This Strike?" published in these columns a few weeks ago, has determined the National Executive Committee to reprint it in pamphlet form. It can be had at the Labor News Company, 64 E. 4th street, this city. Single copies, 5 cents; 10 copies, 30 cents; 100 copies, \$2.50.

Buffalo, N. Y.

Comrade Peter Steenmans, Jr., 10 Guilford street, has been elected agent for THE PEOPLE.

All subscribers in arrears are requested to kindly remit when called upon by the agent.

Philadelphia, Pa.

Comrade Max Keller, 1016 Hope street, has been duly appointed agent for THE PEOPLE.

All subscribers are urgently requested to settle for their subscription by mail if in arrears. Give him a hand in agitating and gathering new subscribers.



ALGERNON LEE, EDITOR "TOC SIN,"  
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.—Shall be glad to con-

100



## FREE MAINTENANCE FOR THE AGED POOR.

[From London "Justice" by A. P. HAZELL.]

The report of the Committee on Old Age Pensions is a fitting monument to the selfishness and callous indifference of the members of the ruling classes to the necessities of the aged poor. In July, 1896, the committee, with Lord Rothschild as chairman, was appointed to consider the various schemes of Old Age Pensions. Though the committee has been in existence two years, it has only had eleven sittings and examined fourteen witnesses. Apparently it left the work to be done by its secretary. But notwithstanding the small number of its sittings, and the paucity of its witnesses, it did not lack material, for it had the report of a previous commission, under Lord Aberdare, to assist it. But it required neither assistance nor evidence. One has only to glance through the report to read between its lines that the committee had the set object of damning all proposals of State pensions and State aid of whatever character. All the usual old bogeys were trotted out. State aid would lead to fraud and abuse; the thrifty would become thriftless, because the incentive to save would be withdrawn; and, then, there was the dread of pauperizing the worker!

The committee was so anxious to protect the worker. Crocodile tears were even shed at the possibility of the pension enabling wicked employers generally to reduce the wages of the worker, for would not the capitalist know that no provision would have to be made out of their workmen's wages for old age?

The committee was appointed to recommend any scheme it might think fit, and, if it felt so sure that the employer would rob the worker of his wages through the adoption of any pension scheme, it was their duty to suggest a tax on employers which would counteract any such action on their part.

The committee, however, was too much overwhelmed at the thought of the expense of old age pensions to think of combating the machinations of evil employers. Such a sum as 5s. per week frightened them, and so alarmed were they that they set themselves to consider every proposal which would force the recipient of a pension to pay 3s. and 4s. out of the 5s. per week granted. After they had considered these proposals they then bethought themselves that the British workingman would not bother about saving 4s. to get 1s. added, so they gave the question up, and betook themselves to the idea that the workers were more than ever able to improve their wages; pensions, therefore, were not needed, especially as there was "a large and constantly increasing number of the industrial population of this country who, by prudence, self-reliance, and self-denial, do already make their old age independent and respected. They, therefore, entertained a strong hope that the improvement which is constantly taking place in the financial and moral condition of labor will do much to deprive the problem they have had to consider of the importance now attaching to it."

By which pious expression of opinion is meant that the government should ignore the question for the present and let the future take care of itself. What the government will do is hard to conjecture. They can hardly accept the non-possessum argument of the committee with Mr. Chamberlain as a member of their cabinet cogitating over a scheme of his own. The probability is the government will if it can ignore pension schemes and modify the existing Poor law in the direction of allowing greater freedom to the aged poor, and removing from them the stigma of pauperism.

The present hour is an opportune one for Mr. Chamberlain. Just now his name is receiving honorable mention as the author of the Workmen's Compensation Act. If he is as astute as he is counted to be, he would seize the first opportunity and proclaim himself boldly in favor of a State pension scheme. The one favored by Mr. Charles Booth, which the committee discarded at once, without consideration, on account of its "enormous expense," would suit Mr. Chamberlain's purpose admirably. Its promoter would have in its favor the admission of the Rothschild Committee (section 59 of its report) that it does "not even question that the State could bear the necessary additional burden if the welfare of the community demanded it."

Mr. Charles Booth's scheme is not so costly as it appears to be at first sight. Anyhow it is one which, if carried, would make the reputation of any politician. In the United Kingdom, at the end of the present month it is estimated that there will be two million persons passed the age of sixty-five, most of whom it can be assumed, will belong to the well-to-do. A niggardly pension of 5s. per week would thus amount to half a million sterling a week, or 26 millions a year. But it is doubtful if half of this money would be expended on the necessitous poor. Supposing such to be the case 13 millions would return to the pockets of the well-to-do, and can, therefore, be deducted from the general total.

If we take the national income at 15 hundred millions the 13 millions consumed by the needy would only amount to seven-eighths of 1 per cent. of the national income. In considering the total expense we ought to take into account the saving of the poor-rate, a sum probably amounting to a third of the 13 millions sterling, which would accrue from the establishment of State pensions, so that after making all allowances, 10 millions sterling a year would more than really cover a pension of 5s. per week for those over 65, including cost of administration, and perhaps would also permit the pension being granted at the age of 60.

The workers need not fear about the expense. Leave such fears to the Rothschild Committee and its millionaires. According to our State statistics, the wealth produced by the workers in 1,500 millions sterling; of which they receive less than 500 millions.

## THE DAILY PEOPLE

\$50,000 FUND.

Amount Pledged down to July 27th, 1898.

\$4,575.

The following amounts have been paid down to July 27th, 1898, incl.:

Previously acknowledged \$2542.76

A. Mayo, City, \$10 10.00

Total \$2552.76

Pledgers will please keep in mind the dates on which their payments fall due, as per printed list, and remit promptly. If any error appears on the list, correct with equal promptness.

THE DAILY PEOPLE COMMITTEE.

164 William St., N. Y.

They are thus exploited of 1,000 millions a year. If they take 10 millions from the 1,000, they will then leave 990 millions upon which their exploiters can wax fat.

Now is the opportunity for the ambitious politician to make his fame by a bold pension scheme. Now also is the opportunity for the workers to put themselves in evidence and force the hand of the politician. Workingmen say they hate the workhouse, the capitalist's battle. Well, let them agitate for State pensions of an adequate character.

The proposal of the Social Democratic Federation for "the establishment of adequate pensions for the aged and infirm, and for every person attaining the age of fifty, work being optional at that age, has been scouted so long that they do not suppose for an instant that they will rally to the cry for such an adequate provision for their old age. It would take too big a lump out of the 1,000 millions of which they are yearly defrauded. The English workingman's motto is, "Let us proceed slowly; 'tis better to get a little bit at a time."

How little the English workingman would be satisfied to accept as a bribe we cannot say; but let us hope for the best, and trust that the time is near when the workers will discover that it is better for them to secure provision for their old age by the collective power of the State than to trust to their own individual efforts, as they have done in the past; and in consequence have suffered poverty and pauperism.—London "Justice."

A. P. HAZELL.

## OFFICIAL.

### SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Secretary Henry Kuhn, 164 William St., N. Y. NATIONAL BOARD OF APPEALS—Secretary Robert Handlow, 193 Champlain St., Cleveland, O.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY OF CANADA. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Secretary George Moore, 61 Ryde St., Montreal.

NOTICE.—For technical reasons, no party announcements are to be made in this office by Tuesday, 10 p. m.

National Executive Committee. Session of July 19th, with Comrade Murphy in the chair. All were present. The financial report ending for the week ending July 15th showed receipts to have been \$41.83, expenditures, \$20.79, deficit for the week, \$21.04. The treasurer submitted the semi-annual financial report which was ordered audited.

The two sections hitherto existing at Manhattan, N. Y., were reported as having been amalgamated, both to form two branches of one section; they asked for a new charter which was granted. Bridgeport, Conn., also asked for a new charter. New sections were organized at Stoneboro, Pa., Millville, Pa., and Topeka, Kansas.

L. A. MALKIEL, Sec'y.

General Agitation Fund. Previously acknowledged \$572.58 C. E. Thompson, N. Y. City, .50 Gustave Langner, Milford, Conn., 4.00 Ernest Lemmon, Barre, Vt., 5.00 Returned by L. A. M. to the fund (surplus) 9.00 Anton Holzer, Huntington, Ark., .50 Total \$591.58 HENRY KUHN, Sec'y.

New Jersey. NEWARK COMRADES, ATTENTION! Special meeting of Section Essex County at headquarters, 201 Broadway, July 29th. All comrades are urged to be present as business of importance is to be transacted. Meeting will commence promptly at 8 o'clock.

New York. Section Greater New York.—At the last session, Saturday 23d, the result of the recently ordered general vote was announced.

For the suspension of Dolinski, 446 votes; against, 70. For the suspension of the 24th Assembly District, 320; against, 125. For the suspension of the 3rd Assembly District, 372; against, 112. Henry Kuhn, Sec'y of the Section to the Buffalo Convention of the S. T. & L. A., handed in a written report. The report was accepted and the delegates of the Section to D. A. 1 (Central Labor Federation) were instructed to demand the resignation of Ernest Bohm from all offices.

To the Assembly Districts of Section New York, S. L. P. Comrades.—A city convention will be held on Saturday, August 13th, 8 P. M., at the Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th Street, New York, for the purpose of electing delegates to the State Convention which takes place in Rochester, N. Y., on August 27th. It will therefore be necessary for the Assembly Districts in the Boroughs of Manhattan, Bronx, Brooklyn and Richmond to arrange primary meetings to elect delegates to the City Convention; such primary meetings to be held not later than August 8th. Assembly Districts containing more than one subdivision of Section New York, S. L. P., must meet together in one primary meeting. Each subdivision is entitled to the same number of delegates to the City Convention, as at present representing them in the General Committee. The City Convention having been called for the same evening that the General Committee meets, it would therefore be wise in order to facilitate matters for the subdivisions, to elect the same delegates to the convention that they now send to the General Committee, providing, of course, that they are citizens. This would then not interfere with the regular meeting of the General Committee, which could be held right after the adjournment of the convention. Delegates to arrange primary meetings should be supplied with credentials properly signed by the chairman and secretary of Primary. The undersigned will arrange and issue notices in the party press for the primaries in the Borough of Manhattan. The election laws require the following rules to be carried in conducting primary meetings: Such meeting to open between the hours of 8 A. M. and 9 P. M., and those taking part in the same must be citizens and entitled to vote at the coming election.

For the City Executive Committee.

L. A. BELSON, Organizer.

Syracuse Primary Notice. A primary of the Socialist Labor party for the purpose of electing delegates and alternate delegates to the State Convention of the Socialist Labor party of the State of New York, to be held in Rochester August 27th, 1898, at 10 o'clock A. M., is hereby called for August 6th, 1898, at 8 P. M. in Labor Hall, corner of East Washington and Market streets. None but party members who are voters may take part. By order.

CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE.

Syracuse, N. Y., July 29th, 1898.

H. HENSCHL, Sec'y.

## PARLIAMENTS OF LABOR.

At the last session of the General Executive Board of the S. T. & L. A., the Secretary E. Bohm, Waldinger, Korn and Mienhausen resigned. The following call for a joint meeting of the D. A.'s of New York and vicinity to fill vacancies has been issued:

To the Local Alliances affiliated with D. A. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and D. A. 49 of the S. T. & L. A.:

The undersigned, members of the G. E. Board of the S. T. & L. A., hereby call a joint meeting of the above District Alliances to consider the resignations of the following members of the General Executive Board: E. Bohm, General Secretary; A. Waldinger, Fin. Secretary; G. Mienhausen, D. Korn, S. Hoffmann and H. Vogt, and to fill the vacancies in accordance with Art. V, Sec. 5 of the constitution. The meeting will be held at Liberty Hall, No. 27 East Houston street, New York, on Saturday, August 6, 1898, at 8 o'clock p. m. All delegates, representing any Local Alliance in any of the District Alliances above named, will be entitled to take part in such joint meeting.

The Local Alliances are urged to request to see to it that their full delegations are present.

Dated, New York, July 23, 1898.

HUGO VOGT.

FRANK W. WILSON.

S. HOFFMAN.

At the last session of D. A. 4 (C. L. P.), the delegates of Section New York fulfilled their instructions to demand the resignation of Bohm. He resigned his office, his resignation was accepted, and his successor was elected.

Books that Ought to Be Read

"The following books can be obtained by mailing price and one-cent of price for postage, to the New York Labor News Co., 64 East Fourth street, New York City. Send for full catalogue."

"The Condition of the Working-Class in England, 1844."—By

Frederick Engels. . . . . \$1.25

"Capital."—By Carl Marx.—An exhaustive dissertation on political economy from the most advanced and scientific standpoint. Bound . . . . . 2.00

"Co-operative Commonwealth."—An Exposition of Socialism, by Laurence Gronlund . . . . . 50

"Socialism vs. Tax Reform."—By Laurence Gronlund . . . . . 10

"Socialism."—By William School McLure . . . . . 10

"A Traveler from Altruria."—By William Dean Howells. Cloth . . . 1.50

"Paper . . . . . 50

"Merrie England."—By Robert Blatchford . . . . . 10

"The Fabian Essays."—By H. G. Wells. Paper . . . . . 25

"French and German Socialism."—By Prof. Richard T. Ely . . . . . 25

"Six Centuries of Work and Wages."—By J. E. H. H. H. Rogers . . . . . 25

"Quintessence of Socialism."—By Dr. A. Schaeffle . . . . . 15

"Reform or Revolution."—By Daniel De Leon . . . . . 5

"The Evolution of Property."—By Lafargue . . . . . 1.00

"Heterodox Economics vs. Orthodox Profits."—By Henry B. Ashplant . . . . . 12

"Patriotism and Socialism."—By G. B. Benham . . . . . 5

"Ancient Society."—By Prof. Lewis Morgan . . . . . 4.00

"National Party Platforms from 1793 to 1896."—By J. M. H. Frederick . . . . . 25

"Philosophy of Wage-Slaves."—By T. Brestford . . . . . 10

"What's to be Done."—By N. G. Tchernyewsky (new edition). . . 60

"Modern Socialism."—By Rev. Charles H. Vall . . . . . 25

"The Coming Social Struggle."—By William Edlin . . . . . 5

To Jewish Sections and Branches.

Wilshire's leaflet, "Why American Workingmen Should Be Socialists," has been translated into Jewish, and can now be had at \$1.25 per 1,000 or \$1.50, if sent by mail or express. Address all orders to

LABOR NEWS CO.,

64 East 4th street, New York.

Milwaukee, Wis.

Comrade J. Rummel, 310 15th street, is authorized agent. All subscribers in arrears are requested to settle with him at once.

Syracuse, N. Y.

THE PEOPLE always for sale at M. Lempp's, 470 S. Salina street, Syracuse, N. Y.

Boston, Mass.

THE PEOPLE is for sale at the following stores:

Brigham's Restaurant, Washington St.

Cohen's Book Store, Washington St., on the Bridge.

Goodell's Store, Harrison Avenue, near Bennett St.

OUTING AND GAMES

OF THE

34th & 35th Ass. Dist., S. L. P.

SUNDAY, July 31st

at PRIME'S PICNIC GROUNDS

Jerome Avenue and Mosholu Parkway.

Prices for Women and Children. Dancing. High Bridge Electric Cars will transfer at 141st St. and Jerome Avenue to Jerome Avenue Cars to the Grounds.

Socialist Wheelmen!

Run to Bridgeport, Conn. Sunday, July 31st, 1898. Start from LABOR LYCEUM, 64 E. 4th St. at 8 A. M. Club House, 28 E. 46th St., at 8.30 sharp. No riders accepted. Reception by THE BRIDGEPORT SOCIALIST CLUB. All Wheelmen and Friends invited.

H. HENSCHL, Sec'y.

## For the Labor Press. GRAND EXCURSION

arranged by the Volkszeitung Konferenz

SUNDAY, August 14th, 1898, to IDLEWILD GROVE, L. I.,

with the Steamer "BAY QUEEN" and the big Barges

CHARLES SPEAR, SUSQUEHANNA, COLUMBIA and WALTER SANDS.

Music by the CARL SAHM CLUB.

PICNIC AT THE GROVE.

Boats leave: South 5th Str., Brooklyn, 8.30 a. m.; East 5th Str., New York, 8.00; East 31st Str., 8.30; East 91st Str., 10 o'clock sharp.

TICKETS 25 Cents a person, at the docks 50 Cents.

Tickets are now for sale in the Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th Str.; Clubhouse, 206 East 86th Str.; West Side Labor Lyceum, 342 East 42d Str., and in all headquarters of the Assembly Districts of the S. L. P.

## SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

PLATFORM.

The Socialist Labor Party of the United States, in Convention assembled, re-affirms the inalienable right of all men to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

With the founders of the American republic we hold that the purpose of government is to secure every citizen in the enjoyment of this right; but in the light of our social conditions we hold, furthermore, that no such right can be exercised under a system of economic inequality, essentially destructive of life, of liberty and of happiness.

With the founders of this republic we hold that the true theory of politics is that the machinery of government must be owned and controlled by the whole people; but in the light of our industrial development we hold, furthermore, that the true theory of economics is that the machinery of production must likewise belong to the people in common.

To the obvious fact that our despotic system of economics is the direct opposite of our democratic system of politics, can plainly be traced the existence of a privileged class, the corruption of government by that class, the alienation of public property, public franchises and public functions to that class, and the abject dependence of the mightiest of nations upon that class.

Again, through the perversion of democracy to the ends of plutocracy, labor is robbed of the wealth which it alone produces, is denied the means of self-employment, and, by compulsory idleness in wage slavery, is even deprived of the necessities of life.

Human power and natural forces are thus wasted, that the plutocracy may rule.

Ignorance and misery, with all their concomitant evils, are perpetuated, that the people may be kept in bondage.

Science and invention are diverted from their humane purpose to the enslavement of women and children.

Against such a system the Socialist Labor Party once more enters its protest. Once more it reiterates its fundamental declaration that private property in the natural sources of production and in the instruments of labor is the obvious cause of all economic servitude and political dependence.

The time is fast coming, however, when, in the natural course of social evolution, this system, through the destructive action of its failures and crises on the one hand, and the constructive tendencies of its trusts and other capitalistic combinations on the other hand, shall have worked out its own downfall.

We, therefore, call upon the wage workers of the United States, and upon all other honest citizens, to organize under the banner of the Socialist Labor Party into a class-conscious body, aware of its rights and determined to conquer them by taking possession of the public powers; so that, held together by an indomitable spirit of solidarity under the most trying conditions of the present class struggle, we may put a summary end to that barbarous struggle by the abolition of classes, the restoration of the land and of all the means of production, transportation and distribution to the people as a collective body, and the substitution of the Co-operative Commonwealth for the present state of planless production, industrial war and social disorder; a commonwealth in which every worker shall have the free exercise and full benefit of his faculties, multiplied by all the modern factors of civilization.

## RESOLUTIONS.

With a view to immediate improvement in the condition of labor we present the following demands:

1. Reduction in the hours of labor in proportion to the progress of production.

2. The United States to obtain possession of the mines, railroads, canals, telegraphs, telephones and all other means of public transportation and communication; the employees to operate the same co-operatively under control of the Federal government and to elect their own superior officers, but no employee shall be discharged for political reasons.

3. The municipalities to obtain possession of the local railroads, ferries, water works, gas works, electric plants and all industries requiring municipal franchises; the employees to operate the same co-operatively under control of the municipal administration and to elect their own superior officers, but no employee shall be discharged for political reasons.

4. The public lands to be declared inalienable. Revocation of all land grants to corporations or individuals, the conditions of which have not been complied with.

5. The United States to have the exclusive right to issue money.

6. Congressional legislation providing for the scientific management of forests and waterways, and prohibiting the waste of the natural resources of the country.

7. Inventions to be free to all; the inventors to be remunerated by the nation.

8. Progressive income tax and tax on inheritances; the smaller incomes to be exempt.

9. School education of all children under fourteen years of age to be compulsory, gratuitous and accessible to all by public assistance in meals, clothing, books, etc., where necessary.

10. Repeal of all pauper, tramp, conspiracy and sumptuary laws. Unabridged right of combination.

11. Prohibition of the employment of children of school age and the employment of female labor in occupations detrimental to health or morality.

12. Abolition of the convict labor contract system.

13. Employment of the unemployed by the public authorities (county, city, state and nation).

14. All wages to be paid in lawful money of the United States. Equalization of women's wages with those of men where equal service is performed.

15. Laws for the protection of life and limb in all occupations, and an efficient employers' liability law.

16. The people to have the right to propose laws and to vote upon all measures of importance, according to the referendum principle.

17. Abolition of the veto power of the Executive (national, state and municipal), wherever it exists.

18. Abolition of the United States Senate and all upper legislative chambers.

19. Municipal self-government.

20. Direct vote and secret ballots in all elections. Universal and equal right of suffrage without regard to color, creed or sex. Election days to be legal holidays. The principle of proportional representation to be introduced.

21. All public officers to be subject to recall by their respective constituencies.

22. Uniform civil and criminal law throughout the United States. Administration of justice to be free of charge. Abolition of capital punishment.

23. Morris Hillquit, Attorney-at-Law.

Office for Consultation (Tuesday to Friday, 11 to 5) 50 Union Square, (offices of Workingmen's Co-operative Insurance Ass'n, etc.) New York.

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Orders will be taken at 116 E. 8th street, between Avenue A and First Ave., New York City. 141

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## Workmen's Children Death Benefit Fund of the United States of America.

The address of the Financial Secretary of the Executive Committee is:

Reinhard Lechner, 13 Bible House,

Room 42, Astor Place, N. Y. City, N. Y.

Office hours: Monday and Friday, 1-5 p.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday, 8-12 A. M. and 4-8 P. M.

Trades and Societies Calendar.

Standing advertisements of Trades Unions and other Societies (not exceeding five lines) will be inserted under this heading hereafter at the rate of \$5.00 per annum.

\*Organizations should not lose such an opportunity of advertising their places of meetings.

Carl Sahn Club (Musicians Union),

Meetings every Tuesday at 10 P. M., at 64 East 4th street, New York Labor Lyceum.

Business Secretary: Frol.

Central Labor Federation of New York